

Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA, DM

SUBJ: DAHOMEAN REACTION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH TO
THE UN SPECIAL SESSION

SUMMARY: CHARGE DELIVERED FRENCH TEXT OF SEC KISSINGER'S
UNGA SPECIAL SESSION SPEECH TO DIRGEN OF FORNMIN SEP 3.
HE PROMISED SERIOUS STUDY OF THE PROPOSALS AND TOOK PARTICULAR
NOTE OF THE TONE AND APPARENT FLEXIBILITY OF APPROACH.
OFFICIAL GOVT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED ARTICLES SEPT 4 AND 5 COMMENT-
ING ON SPEECH. WHILE NOT DEPARTING FROM FACTUAL ACCURACY, THE
FIRST ARTICLE WAS NOT ENTIRELY COMPLIMENTARY IN TONE. BOTH
ARTICLES GIVE GREAT EMPHASIS TO ECONOMIC PROPOSALS OF GROUP
OF 77. END SUMMARY

1. CHARGE DELIVERED TO DIRGEN AND ACTING HEAD OF FORNMIN SEPT
3, TWO COPIES OF THE FRENCH TEXT OF SECRETARY'S SPEECH. THE DIRGEN
EXPRESSED APPARENT SURPRISE AND DELIGHT IN RECEIVING SO QUICKLY,
THE COMPLETE FRENCH TEXT AND INDICATED THAT ASIDE FROM SHORT
REVIEWS ON THE VOICE OF AMERICA, HE HAD NO OTHER INFO CONCERNING
THE SPEECH. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT HE WAS PARTICULARLY IM-
PRESSED WITH THE TONE AND FLEXIBILITY OF APPROACH. HE GAVE
ASSURANCES THAT IT WOULD BE STUDIED IN DETAIL AND ASKED
TO HAVE TWO ADDITIONAL COPIES WHICH WERE SENT IMMEDIATELY
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FOLLOWING THE MEETING. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE MINISTRY DID NOT

HAVE ACCESS TO THE SPEECH PRIOR TO OUR DELIVERY OF IT AND HAD NOT ADOPTED EVEN AN INITIAL REACTION TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSALS.

2. ARTICLES CONCERNING THE SPEECH APPEARED IN THE OFFICIAL GOVT NEWSPAPER SEPT 4 AND 5. THE FIRST ARTICLE ENTITLED "THE US PROPOSED A WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER 'A LA AMERICAINE'", WHILE NOT DEPARTING FROM FACTUAL ACCURACY IN ITS REFERENCES TO THE SPEECH, WAS NOT ENTIRELY COMPLIMENTARY IN TONE.

3. THE ARTICLE STARTS BY INDICATING THAT THE "ACTION PROGRAM" OF THE SECRETARY AND THE POSITION PAPER OF THE GROUP 77 WILL FORM A BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. THE ARTICLE THEN BRIEFLY SUMMARIZES SOME OF THE POINTS OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH AND INDICATES THAT THE PROPOSALS REPRESENT AN APPARENT TURNING POINT IN AMERICAN POLICY CONCERNING THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE THIRD WORLD.

4. THE ARTICLE ADDS THAT CRITICISM OF THE PROPOSALS HAS BEEN RAISED, HOWEVER, ON BOTH THE SUBSTANCE (THE SECRETARY DOES NOT ACCEPT THE INDEXING OF PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS), AND THE FORM (NO DIRECT REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE SPECIALIZED UN ORGANIZATIONS WHICH PREVIOUSLY HAVE WORKED ON THIS PROBLEM). THE ARTICLE THEN STATES THAT KISSINGER INSISTS ON HONORABLE TREATMENT FOR AMERICAN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE WHICH HE VIEWS AS CAPABLE OF PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL ECONOMIES AND OF WORLD TRADE. THE ARTICLE COMMENTS THAT KISSINGER'S "NEW DEAL" IS NOT AN ACT OF CHARITY, AND IT CONCLUDES WITH THE FOLLOWING (EMBASSY TRANSLATION): "ONE LOOKS IN VAIN FOR HUMILITY OR SOME STATEMENT TO MAKE AMENDS FOR PAST ACTIONS. HE (THE SECRETARY) DOES NOT ACCEPT THE POLEMICS OR THE AUTOMATIC MAJORITY OF THE UN AND HE REPEATS THAT THE PRINCIPAL EFFORT WILL HAVE TO BE DEPLOYED BY THE THIRD WORLD THEMSELVES. THEY CAN TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT. IN THIS REGARD THE PROPOSITION IS A TYPICALLY AMERICAN ONE."

5. THE SECOND ARTICLE INDICATES THAT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE UN INTEND TO USE, AS THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE NEW ECONOMIC ORDER, THE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE "GROUP OF 77". IT INDICATES THAT OBSERVERS HAVE NOTED THAT THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH DOES NOT "PROPERLY SPEAKING, CONSTITUTE A RESPONSE TO THE GROUP OF 77 DOCUMENT" AND MIGHT EVEN BE TAKEN UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL SESSION OR THE SPECIAL "AD HOC" COMMISSION.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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